

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION

ORDER NO. 87-54

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR THE  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
WEST MIRAMAR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (hereinafter Regional Board), finds that:

1. Mr. Jim Gutzmer, Deputy Director, Solid Waste Division, City of San Diego, submitted an incomplete Report of Waste Discharge dated February 26, 1982 for the then proposed West Miramar Solid Waste Disposal Facility in San Diego County. After receipt of additional information, the Report of Waste Discharge was accepted on April 6, 1982.
2. On May 24, 1982, this Regional Board adopted Order No. 82-13, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of San Diego, West Miramar Solid Waste Disposal Facility, San Diego County*. Order No. 82-13 established requirements for the operation of a Class II-2 (old classification) sanitary landfill. Order No. 82-13 contained an expiration date of May 24, 1987.
3. As a part of the FY 1986/87 waste discharge order update program, Order No. 82-13 has been reviewed by Regional Board staff in accordance with criteria established in the Administrative Procedures Manual adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board. As a result of this review, it has been determined that changes are necessary in the requirements established by Order No. 82-13.
4. The West Miramar Solid Waste Disposal Facility is operated by the City of San Diego, Solid Waste Division. The legal property owner, the U.S. Navy Miramar Naval Air Station, leases the land to the City of San Diego. The disposal operation began in 1982 and is expected to continue operation until 2004 when it is expected to reach capacity.
5. The 870-acre landfill site is located in the City of San Diego east of I-805, south of the U.S. Navy's Miramar Naval Air Station, west of the existing North Miramar Sanitary Landfill and north of San Clemente Canyon. The site is located in the Miramar Hydrographic Subunit (6.4) of the Penasquitos Hydrographic Unit, in portions of Sections 22, 23 and 24, T15S, R3W, SBB&M. The site location is shown on Attachment "A" to this Order.

12. The Report of Waste Discharge indicated that the geology at the site consists of a five-to-ten-foot thick surface cap of silty, sandy gravels to gravelly sandy clay of the Linda Vista Formation. This formation overlies the Stadium Conglomerate Formation consisting of gravel and cobbles in a silty sand matrix extending to a depth of 100 feet. Sediments beneath this formation are identified as the Friars and Scripps Formation, consisting of sandy grey clay containing boulders and cobbles estimated to be 600 feet in thickness.
13. Surrounding land within 1,000 feet of the landfill site is designated for open space. To the north and east of the landfill site is Miramar Naval Air Station, and to the south and west is residential development.
14. The United States Navy has retained the development rights to any methane gas produced from the landfilling operations within the leased area under terms of present lease agreements.
15. In the Report of Waste Discharge the City of San Diego proposed to install a network of methane gas monitoring probes at and adjacent to the landfill area. Should the gas probes indicate a methane concentration approaching the lower explosive limit of methane in the air (5%), the discharger will immediately notify the Navy of such circumstance and work with the Navy to effect an active control system as the (then current) technology dictates necessary to prevent any hazard to surrounding areas.
16. On October 18, 1984, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted a new version of California Administrative Code, Title 23, Chapter 3, Subchapter 15 (hereinafter Subchapter 15). The 1984 version of Subchapter 15 superseded the version of Subchapter 15 adopted in 1972. Subchapter 15 establishes waste and site classification criteria and waste management requirements for waste treatment, storage and disposal in landfills, surface impoundments, waste piles and land treatment facilities, as well as standards for mining wastes and discharges of animal waste at confined animal facilities. Subchapter 15 is to be implemented by issuance of waste discharge requirements. In order for waste discharge requirements to be issued which fully implement Subchapter 15 with respect to a specific landfill site, it is necessary for the landfill owner/operator to submit certain information called for in Subchapter 15, and for Regional Board staff to review and analyze that information. By letter dated March 26, 1985 Regional Board staff requested the City of San Diego to submit such information for the West Miramar Solid Waste Disposal Facility. By letter dated May 14, 1985, William G. Sterling, Deputy Director, City of San Diego General Services

20. The Basin Plan established the following water quality objectives for the Miramar Hydrographic Subunit:

Constituent	Concentration not to be exceeded more than 10 percent of the time			
	Surface Water		Ground Water <sup>1</sup>	
Total Dissolved Solids	500	mg/L	750	mg/L
Chloride	250	mg/L	300	mg/L
Percent Sodium	60	%	60	%
Sulfate	250	mg/L	300	mg/L
Nitrate	- - -		10	mg/L
Nitrogen & Phosphorus	*		- - -	
Iron	0.3	mg/L	0.3	mg/L
Manganese	0.05	mg/L	0.05	mg/L
Methylene Blue Active Substances	0.5	mg/L	0.5	mg/L
Boron	0.5	mg/L	0.5	mg/L
Dissolved Oxygen	**		- - -	
Odor	None		None	
Turbidity	20	NTU	5	NTU
Color	20	Units	15	Units
Fluoride	1.0	mg/L	1.0	mg/L

\* Concentrations of nitrogen and phosphorus, by themselves or in combinations with other nutrients, shall be maintained at levels below those which stimulate algae and emergent plant growth. Threshold total Phosphorus (P) concentrations shall not exceed 0.05 mg/L in any stream at the point where it enters any standing body of water, nor 0.025 mg/L in any stream at the point where it enters any standing body of water. A desired goal in order to prevent plant nuisances in streams and other flowing waters appears to be 0.1 mg/L total P. These values are not to be exceeded more than 10 percent of the time unless studies of the specific water body in question clearly show that water quality objective changes are permissible and changes are approved by the Regional Board. Analogous threshold values have not been set for nitrogen compounds; however, natural ratios of nitrogen to phosphorus are to be determined by surveillance and monitoring and upheld. If data are lacking, a ratio of N:P = 10:1 shall be used.

\*\* Ninety percent or more of natural seasonal minimum oxygen concentration and more than 5.0 mg/L maintained at least 90 percent of the time.

Note: <sup>1</sup>The water quality objectives do not apply west of Interstate Highway 15. Objectives for the remainder of the hydrographic subunit are as shown.

mg/L = milligrams per liter NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

25. The EIR identified the following changes or alterations which would mitigate or avoid the significant effects on the environment identified in Finding No. 24. The mitigation measures (a) through (d) are primarily within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and any such changes can and should be adopted by such other agency.
- a. Odors and dust will be controlled by proper maintenance (watering) of roads and compaction areas. Further mitigation will be accomplished through the planting of fill slopes to insure soil cover. The refuse will be covered with soil daily to minimize rainfall penetration, loose trash, and vector activity.
  - b. The highest quality wildlife habitats will be retained on-site and the landfill site will be reseeded and used as an open space area.
  - c. Slopes of the landfill site will be graded and reseeded with native plant species to blend with existing areas. Litter will be controlled by installation of temporary fencing of the active fill areas.
  - d. Noise from on-site equipment will be controlled by proper maintenance of engine mufflers.
  - e. Construction of site facilities, such as surface runoff water collection and bypass, floodwater protection adjacent to San Clemente Canyon, energy dissipators at the discharge ends of downdrains, and leachate collection and monitoring system at the toe of the landfill will mitigate surface and ground water impacts.
26. The Regional Board, in establishing the requirements contained herein, considered factors including, but not limited to the following:
- a. Past, present, and probable future beneficial uses of water.
  - b. Environmental characteristics of the hydrographic unit under consideration, including the quality of water available thereto.
  - c. Water quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area.
  - d. Economic considerations.
  - e. The need for developing housing within the region.
  - f. Beneficial uses to be protected and water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose.
  - g. Other waste discharges.
  - h. The need to prevent nuisance.

4. The discharge of waste in a manner other than as described in the findings of this Order or the Report of Waste Discharge is prohibited unless the discharger obtains revised waste discharge requirements that provide for the proposed change.
5. The discharge of waste to surface drainage courses or to usable ground water is prohibited.
6. Waste materials shall not be disposed of outside of the designated disposal area(s) shown on Attachment "A".
7. Wastes shall not be placed in ponded water from any source whatsoever.
8. Disposal of hazardous waste at this waste management facility is prohibited.
9. Disposal of designated waste at this waste management facility is prohibited except as provided for by Subchapter 15, Section 2520(a)(1).
10. Disposal of liquids or semi-solid waste at this waste management facility is prohibited except as provided for by Subchapter 15, Section 2520(d)(3).
11. Disposal of sewage or water treatment sludge at this waste management facility is prohibited except as provided for by Subchapter 15, Sections 2520(d)(3) and 2523(c).
12. Basin Plan prohibitions shall not be violated.

**B. DISCHARGE SPECIFICATIONS**

1. The migration of methane gas from the landfill shall be controlled as necessary to prevent creation of a nuisance.
2. All wells located within the disposal area shall be sealed to the satisfaction of the San Diego County Health Department (and any other pertinent agency) prior to discharging waste materials within 100 feet of any such wells.
3. During the months when precipitation can be expected, the disposal activity shall be confined to the smallest area possible based upon the anticipated quantity of wastes and operational procedures.
4. The discharger shall remove and relocate any wastes which are discharged at this site in violation of these requirements.
5. The discharger shall comply with Subchapter 15, Section 2520(b) at this waste management facility.

5. The discharger shall, at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the discharger to achieve compliance with conditions of this Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes effective performance, adequate funding, adequate operator staffing and training, and adequate laboratory and process controls including appropriate quality assurance procedures.
6. This Order may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause including, but not limited to, the following:
  - (a) Violation of any terms or conditions of this Order;
  - (b) Obtaining this Order by misrepresentation or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts; or
  - (c) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge. The filing of a request by the discharger for the modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination of this Order, or notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any condition of this Order.
7. This Order does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges. The requirements prescribed herein do not authorize the commission of any act causing injury to persons or property, nor protect the discharger from liability under federal, state or local laws, nor create a vested right for the discharger to continue the regulated activity.
8. The discharger shall allow the Regional Board, or an authorized representative upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
  - (a) Enter upon the discharger's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this Order;
  - (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this Order;
  - (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order; and
  - (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring compliance with this Order or as otherwise authorized by the California Water Code, any substances or parameters at any location.

2. The discharger shall furnish to the Executive Officer of this Regional Board, within a reasonable time, any information which the Executive Officer may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order. The discharger shall also furnish to the Executive Officer, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this Order.
3. The discharger must notify the Executive Officer, in writing at least 30 days in advance of any proposed transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage to a new discharger. The notice must include a written agreement between the existing and new discharger containing a specific date for the transfer of this Order's responsibility and coverage between the current discharger and the new discharger. This agreement shall include an acknowledgement that the existing discharger is liable for violations up to the transfer date and that the new discharger is liable from the transfer date on.
4. The discharger shall comply with the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 87-54. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified in Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 87-54.
5. Where the discharger becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a Report of Waste Discharge or submitted incorrect information in a Report of Waste Discharge or in any report to the Regional Board, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.
6. The discharger shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any such information shall be provided verbally to the Executive Officer within 24 hours from the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the discharger becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected; the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance. The Executive Officer, or an authorized representative, may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.
7. The discharger shall file a written report within 90 days after the total quantity of wastes discharged at this waste management facility equals 75 percent of the reported capacity of the facility. The discharger's senior administrative officer shall sign a letter which transmits the report and certifies that the policy-making body is adequately informed about it. The report shall contain a

- (3) *For a municipality, state, federal or other public agency*  
-by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
- b. All other reports required by this Order and other information required by the Executive officer shall be signed by a person designated in paragraph (a) of this provision, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. An individual is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - (1) The authorization is made in writing by a person described in paragraph (a) of this provision;
  - (2) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity; and
  - (3) The written authorization is submitted to the Executive Officer.
- c. Any person signing a document under this Section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment."

14. The discharger shall submit reports required under this Order and other information requested by the Executive Officer, to:

Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Diego Region  
9771 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite B  
San Diego, California 92124- 1331

#### **E. NOTIFICATIONS**

1. These requirements have not been officially reviewed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and are not issued pursuant to Section 402 of the Clean Water Act.
2. The California Water Code provides that any person who intentionally or negligently violates any waste discharge requirements issued, reissued, or amended by this Regional Board is subject to admini-



CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION

MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM NO. 87-54  
FOR THE  
CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
WEST MIRAMAR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITY  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 87-54 is identical to the monitoring and reporting program previously associated with Order No. 82-13. A revised monitoring and reporting program as outlined by Subchapter 15 will be required after review of technical information submitted as required by Order No. 87-54 or requested by the Executive Officer.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

Unless otherwise noted, all sampling, sample preservation, and analyses shall be conducted in accordance with the current edition of *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater* or approved by the Executive Officer.

All analyses shall be performed in a laboratory certified to perform such analyses by the California Department of Health Services or a laboratory approved by the Executive Officer.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR REPORTING

For every item where the requirements are not met, the discharger shall submit a statement of the actions undertaken or proposed which will bring the discharge into full compliance with requirements at the earliest time and submit a timetable for correction.

By January 30 of each year, the discharger shall submit an annual summary report to the Regional Board. The report shall contain both tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year. In addition, the discharger shall discuss the compliance record and the corrective actions taken or planned which may be needed to bring the discharge into full compliance with the waste discharge requirements.

MONITORING PROGRAM

The discharger shall submit technical reports concerning the quantity and quality of the discharge in accordance with the following schedule.

A. *Site Monitoring*

The discharger shall submit an annual report consisting of a map showing the site boundaries, excavated areas, and a report of the estimated total volume of wastes deposited in the landfill and the estimated capacity remaining.

